



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/945,297

08/31/2001

Manoel Tenorio

020431.0922

2037

53184 7590 01/29/2009  
i2 TECHNOLOGIES US, INC.  
ONE i2 PLACE, 11701 LUNA ROAD  
DALLAS, TX 75234

EXAMINER

CHEUNG, MARY DA ZHI WANG

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3694

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/29/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/945,297	<b>Applicant(s)</b> TENORIO, MANOEL	
	<b>Examiner</b> MARY CHEUNG	<b>Art Unit</b> 3694	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 November 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 29-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 29-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |                                                                                      |                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____                                                          | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Status of the Claims***

1. This action is in response to the amendment filed on November 3, 2008. Claims 29-54 are pending and examined. Claims 1-28 are canceled. Claim 29 is amended. Claims 30-54 are added.

### ***Response to Arguments***

2. Applicant's arguments filed November 3, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to the applicant argues that cited references fail to teach the limitations in claim 30 or other independent claims, Haji in view of Shkedy and Halperin teaches the claimed limitations as discussed in the office action below.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 29-30, 32-38, 40-46 and 48-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haji et al., US 2002/0035511 A1 in view of Shkedy, US 6,260,024 B1, and in further view of Halperin et al., US 6,105,004.

As to claims 30 and 54, Haji teaches a system for locally generating price quotes, the system comprising: a server associated with a buyer, wherein the server is operable

Art Unit: 3694

to (§ 11, 75 and Figs. 1-2; *“a server associated with a buyer” corresponds to the receiving terminal in Haji’s teaching*):

- Receiving one or more pricing tools from one or more of the plurality of sellers, the one or more pricing tools configured to generate price quotes for one or more corresponding plurality of sellers (§ 10, 70-75 and Figs. 1-2; *“seller” corresponds to “Server” as shown in Fig. 1 of Haji, and “pricing tools” corresponds to the quotation calculation program that generates price quotes for the computer products*);
- Locally store the one or more pricing tools received from the one or more of the plurality of sellers in the database coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers, such that the one or more pricing tools are locally accessible to the server coupled with each of the plurality of buyer computers (§ 70-75 and Figs. 1-2);
- Access a request for quote (RFQ) specifying an order, the RFQ requesting a price quote for the order (§ 74, 93-94 and Fig. 2);
- Communicate the RFQ to the locally accessible one or more pricing tools stored in the database (§ 74 and Fig. 2);
- Using the locally accessible one or more pricing tools received from one or more of the plurality of sellers, locally generate, at the corresponding buyer computer, one or more price quotes for the order (§ 74 and Fig. 2);

Art Unit: 3694

- Providing the locally generated one or more price quotes for the order for possible further action by the corresponding buyer computer (§ 74-77 and Fig. 2).

Haji does not specifically teach a network coupled with a plurality of buyer computers and a plurality of sellers, and a database associated with each of the plurality of buyers computers. However, Shkedy teaches this matter (Figs. 1-2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow buyers and sellers in Haji's teaching to be coupled to a network and the buyers' information are stored in a database for better centralize transactions.

Haji modified by Shkedy does not specifically teach the specified order comprising quantities of one or more items. However, Halperin teaches pricing an order including calculation of quantities of the ordered items (column 4 lines 1-4 and column 5 lines 37-45 and Figs. 5-7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the specified order in the teaching of Haji modified by Shkedy to include quantities of the ordered items as taught by Halperin so that the buyer can have better idea of the total costs of the order that have multiple purchased items.

As to claim 32, Haji in view of Halperin teaches a buyer purchase items from a seller as discussed above. Haji in view of Halperin does not specifically teach a buyer group comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single entity. Examiner takes Office Notice that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the teachings of Haji modified by Halperin to include the feature of a buyer group

Art Unit: 3694

comprising two or more buyers buying items as a single entity for sharing better price of the purchased items.

As to claim 33, Haji further teaches determining validation of the pricing information received from the buyer by the seller, and the pricing information is valid only if the pricing tool is the latest version; and if the pricing information is invalid or outdated, recalculation is performed based on the updated price tool (§ 88-91). Haji does not specifically teach the buyer will receive the updated version of the pricing tools. However, since Haji teaches the pricing information is valid only use the latest version of the pricing tools (§ 89) and the pricing information is calculated in real time (§ 83), it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the buyer to receive the latest version of the pricing tools for accurately calculate the pricing information.

As to claim 34, locally generate a price quote for a modified order is taught by Haji as a price quote is locally generated based on the buyer's various of selections of the order (§ 74 and Fig. 2).

As to claim 35, Haji further teaches automatically calculating the price quote locally in real time (§ 83), and the price quote is valid only use the latest version of the pricing tool (§ 89). Haji does not specifically teach the modifications to the order are made automatically. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the modification of the order in Haji's teaching to be made automatically for accurately calculating the most recent price.

As to claim 36, iteratively modify the order and locally generate corresponding price quotes is taught by Haji as corresponding price quotes are locally generated based on the buyer's various of selections of the order (§ 74 and Fig. 2).

As to claim 37, Haji teaches the server is operable to locally generate the pricing quote independent of the communication with the one or more sellers subsequent to receiving the one or more pricing tools from the sellers (§ 75).

Claims 29, 38, 40-46 and 48-53 are rejected for the same rationale as used in claims 30, 32-37 and 54.

5. Claims 31, 39 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Haji et al., US 2002/0035511 A1 in view of Shkedy, US 6,260,024 B1 and Halperin et al., US 6,105,004 as discussed above, and in further view of Official Notice evidenced by Tsiounis et al., US 2001/0032878 A1.

As to claims 31, 39 and 47, Haji in view of Shkedy and Halperin teaches the one or more price tools as discussed above (see claim 30). Haji in view of Shkedy and Halperin does not specifically teach the pricing tools are encrypted to prevent the pricing tool from being used to determine how price quotes are calculated. The examiner takes Official Notice that encrypting information for preventing unauthorized parties from revealing the information is old and well known in the art. For example, Tsiounis teaches encrypting information, and the technology of data encryptions is well known in the art (§ 17, 40). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to allow the pricing tools in the teachings of Haji modified by Shkedy and Halperin to be encrypted for better protecting the information associated with the pricing tools.

***Conclusion***

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Inquire***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary Cheung whose telephone number is (571)-272-6705. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday – Thursday from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell, can be reached on (571) 272-6712.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.



Art Unit: 3694

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceedings is assigned are as follows:

(571) 273-8300      (Official Communications; including After Final  
Communications labeled "BOX AF")

(571) 273-6705      (Draft Communications)

/Mary Cheung/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3694  
January 27, 2009